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Feb. 2-4, In Hattiesburg

SBC President To Address Evangelism/Bible Meeting

The president of the Southern Baptist Convention and the executive director of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission headline the annual Mississippi Evangelism/Bible Conference in February.

The yearly preaching and Bible teaching conference is set February 24 at First Baptist Church, Hattiesburg.

Bailey Smith, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church, Del City, Okla., and current SBC president, will preach Tuesday Feb. 3 during the evening session of the conference and again the next morning.

James Smith, Brotherhood Commission executive, will lead in Bible study the evening of the 2nd, and again the next morning and afternoon.

Other featured speakers include Roy Edgemon director of the Sunday



Smith



Edgemon



Gregory



Newport

and Richard Jackson, pastor of North Phoenix Baptist Church, Phoenix, Ariz. Joel Gregory, pastor of Gambrell St. Baptist Church, Ft. Worth, Tex., will lead in Bible study on Tuesday evening and Wednesday morning.

Russell Newport of Missouri will be soloist for the conference. Dan Hall of the Mississippi Baptist Church Music department will coordinate music and Irene Martin and Dot Pray will be accompanists.

In addition to the general sessions, the program offers special interest conferences in specific areas of Baptist doctrine. The program allows time for attending two of these doctrinal conferences. They include the doctrine of angels, Satan, demons, man, sin, the church, future things, God, Christ, and the scriptures. Two other special interest conferences will be on "Awakenings" (Continued on page 2)



She Served With Lottie Moon

After 17 years as a missionary to China, Jewell Leggett Daniel not only possesses numerous treasures, she is one herself. Here she holds a "hand embroidered wall plaque with very ancient Chinese characters." Though the characters are in a dialect she cannot read, Mrs. Daniel believes they represent the four seasons. The seasons and the years of her service in China overlapped with the missionary years of Lottie Moon, for whom the foreign missions Christmas offering is named.

One of the last two living missionaries to serve with Miss Moon, Mrs. Daniel shared her remembrances at the Annual Meeting of Woman's Missionary Union, Auxiliary to Southern Baptist Convention, in St. Louis in June. She told one reporter, when asked about one item in particular she remembered about Miss Moon, "I think it is that she lived with the Holy Spirit when the rest of us were afraid to admit it. She just lived and walked with the Holy Spirit every day." (Photo by Gene Medaris)

\$45 Million Lottie Moon Offering Still Won't Pay Foreign Mission Bills

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Although the \$45 million national goal for the 1980 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering represents a 12 percent increase over last year's goal, some Foreign Mission Board staff are predicting it will take an additional \$9 million to get the same amount of purchasing power.

"It's costing 17 1/2 percent more this year just to do what we did last year," says Winston Crawley, vice-president for planning for the Foreign Mission Board.

"In addition, we have a net increase in the number of missionaries, so add another 2 1/2 percent to that figure."

"I guess you could say it's going to take 20 percent more money this year to give the same working effective funds per missionary," he says.

Crawley also says he's concerned because the majority of Southern Baptists don't have an adequate understanding of what this is going to mean in financing foreign missions.

"They (Southern Baptists) hear a lot of talk about Bold Mission Thrust, and see an increase in dollar amounts," he says.

"But the fact is that we're not really keeping up. I tell people 'the dollar bill

you have in your pocket may look the same as the dollar you had last year, but it isn't. It buys a great deal less," he says.

Other top-ranking Board administrators agree.

Referring to the \$45 million national Lottie Moon Offering goal, R. Keith Parks, Foreign Mission Board president says, "We must go well beyond it if we are to match present buying power."

"If we can go beyond our goal, we can make some real advances in foreign missions. We have probably never faced a time when a need for funds is as pressing as it is right now," he says.

The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is the single largest source of financial support for Southern Baptist foreign missions.

It will provide 49.75 percent of the FMB's 1981 budget.

According to Carl Johnson, treasurer-elect for the Foreign Mission Board, the offering is split into eight general divisions. By far the largest amount — \$27 million from the 1980 offering — will go directly for missionary support. This will cover such items as mis-

sionaries' salaries, education, and housing.

The other divisions include capital, evangelism and church development, schools, medical work, publications work, benevolence ministries as well as a fund for other ministries.

The Board's second-largest source of income comes through the Cooperative Program, Southern Baptists' unified giving plan.

According to Johnson, the 1981 budget will receive more than \$36 million from Cooperative Program funds. This amount is approximately 40 percent of the 1981 budget.

Because of Cooperative Program support, the FMB is able to use every penny of the Lottie Moon Offering on overseas missions causes. None of it will go for home office expenses.

The remainder of the Board's financial support comes from designated gifts and capital funds as well as funds that were not spent in the previous year's budget.

Foreign Mission Board staff members see current worldwide economic conditions as playing a major role in the diminishing purchasing power of the Lottie Moon Offering.

"There is a much more rapid rate of inflation in a number of the countries in which we have missions than we experience in the United States," says Johnson.

"Then when we add to the inflation rate, the decline in the purchasing power of the United States dollar overseas, the impact is compounded," he says.

But Crawley says there's a third factor that affects overseas missions financing — the amount of missions involvement the Board has in a particular country.

"In places where we are more heavily involved — have more missionaries, the inflation rates affect us more," he says.

According to Crawley, countries where these three factors working together make missions extremely expensive include Argentina, Israel,

Kenya, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Chile, Colombia, and Uruguay.

Even though 1979 marked the first time the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering goal had been met in the last four years, Crawley and other Foreign Mission Board administrators express optimism in meeting this year's goal.

"I believe Southern Baptists really do intend to reach the goals of Bold Mission Thrust," Crawley says. "And when we understand what it means, we'll get behind it, and do what's necessary to reach those goals."

Hunger Forum Pulls Groups Together For Planning

By Mary Jane Welch
RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Concerns about lifestyle changes and the need for more planning, educational material and successful models surfaced in a forum of Southern Baptist groups dealing with the world hunger problem.

Representatives from Southern Baptist agencies charged with coping with hunger and from groups which sprang from a grassroots concern about world hunger shared what their groups are doing during the forum sponsored by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

The intense interest of Americans, and particularly Southern Baptists, in hunger issues, made Foreign Mission Board administrators feel such a forum would be timely, said William R. O'Brien, board executive vice president.

The board called the forum, realizing the issue was too big to be the exclusive property of any one group, he said. "We met to sensitize each other as to how the issue is spoken to by various groups, to uncover duplication

of efforts, to explore how different approaches complement each other."

The groups' activities in the hunger arena varied from education to creating models to taking action. But all expressed a common concern in hunger relief efforts closely tied to a Christian message and voiced the feeling that Southern Baptists must be led to consider changing their lifestyles if they are going to deal adequately with the hunger issue.

Cecil A. Ray, executive director of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina and an author noted for writing on Christian lifestyle, echoed earlier words of board president R. Keith Parks when he said the gospel and a cup of cold water must go together. "As I look at world hunger, it is always with the flaming gospel in our hearts," said Ray.

"The Southern Baptist Convention hasn't accepted the idea that hunger is wrong," said Sammy Simpson, of Tupelo, Miss., former missionary and now executive director of Agricultural Mission Foundation.

While some asked for educational

materials which would enable individuals to respond better to world hunger needs, the group also called for successful project models and more planning to enable Southern Baptists to make more appropriate and adequate responses to the problem.

John R. Cheyne, the Foreign Mission Board's consultant for relief minis-

(Continued on page 2)



McNeil



Byrd

Two Pastors Are Preaching In Guyana

Athens McNeil, pastor of Griffin Street Church, Moss Point, and Kenna Byrd, pastor of Parkway, Pascagoula, were commissioned by their churches to go to Guyana, to lead revivals in and around Georgetown. They began the work there Nov. 1 and are to continue preaching for 17 days.

McNeil, pastor in Mississippi and Alabama since the '50's, has made mission trips to Washington, Montana, and South Dakota. Also he is an approved State Board worker and has held Church Training programs in Mississippi, Alabama, and Louisiana. He is married and the father of two children.

Byrd was pastor at Calvary, Hattiesburg before he moved to Jackson County, where he has served for 15 years. He and his wife have four children.

Board Approves Mission Liaisons At Home, Abroad

Cooperative missions efforts with another state and with missionaries in three foreign countries are in the process of being worked out by Mississippi Baptists.

During its meeting Monday the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board approved an agreement with the Southern Baptist General Convention of California for Mississippians to be used in missions efforts there. And the Convention Board also placed its approval on continuing efforts by Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer, to explore the possibilities of an official missions connection between Mississippi Baptists and the missions organizations of Argentina, Uruguay, and Paraguay. These arrangements are being explored through the Foreign Mission Board.

The link-up with California will continue efforts by Mississippians there that have resulted in 20 church buildings being erected during the past several months. The connection will result in an expansion of these and other types of missions endeavors, Kelly said.

He explained that the foreign missions arrangements will call for a great deal of lay-oriented involvement in such fields as agriculture, education, medicine, dentistry, construction, and evangelism.

The Baptist General Convention of Texas recently has adopted such an arrangement with the Baptists in Brazil.

The board also approved with one dissenting vote the merger proposal between Clarke College and Mississippi College that was to be presented to the Mississippi Baptist Convention later this week. Clarke College trustees came to the convention last year through the Mississippi Baptist Christian Education Commission and the Convention Board asking for direction in a financial dilemma. The Southern Baptist Education Commission was asked to study the situation, and as a result the Clarke trustees proposed the merger.

During the discussion before the Convention Board this week, Mississippi College President Lewis Nobles said the name would probably become the Clarke College Branch of Mississippi College in order to retain the Clarke identity. He again mentioned that upper level and graduate courses would be taught on the Clarke campus as the demand justified. He noted that savings on expenses probably could be effected in administration costs and in an increase in the number of students through the upper level courses.

The board voted to allow up to \$7,000 for a new delivery vehicle for the Baptist Building and up to \$75,000 for a more efficient air conditioning operation for Gulfshore Assembly after a study is made on the effectiveness of using single unit air conditioners in the residence rooms and certain classrooms instead of having to cool the entire complex for small conferences.

More Vols Needed For Needlepoint

By Edwina Robinson, Chairman Needlepoint Project

The historical needlepoint tapestry commissioned to hang in the foyer of the Baptist Building in Jackson is on its way to completion. However, some of the original volunteers found it difficult to mail a completed piece of their needlepoint and still others have expressed interest in participating in the project — so we are making a "second effort."

The selection committee is seeking to select needlepointers whose work

(Continued on page 2)



Trust Walk

Students from around the world build community by experiencing a "trust walk." 130 participants from 31 countries were a part of the International Student Conference this past weekend at Camp Garaywa. The conference is sponsored jointly by the Mississippi department of Student Work and the WMU.

Two Former SBC Presidents Take Action Lauding Smith

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Two former presidents of the 13.4 million member Southern Baptist Convention — Adrian Rogers of Memphis and W. A. Criswell of Dallas — have taken actions lauding the current SBC president, Bailey Smith.

In Memphis, Rogers, pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church and immediate past president, led fellow pastors of the Shelby Baptist Pastors' Conference to pass a resolution praising Smith as "spiritually vibrant, morally pure and doctrinally straight."

Criswell, pastor of First Baptist Church of Dallas and president 1968-70, issued a written statement to Baptist Press in the wake of controversy concerning the 70-year-old pastor's published remarks critical of Smith.

In speaking in support of Smith, both men alluded to Smith's remark that "God does not hear the prayers of a Jew," made at the National Affairs Briefing, a conservative political-religious gathering in Dallas in August.

Criswell's statement came "in view of recent press releases concerning my own words" about Smith and the Jews, and noted the famed preacher still disagrees and is "exercising that cherished Baptist principle of the right to an alternative opinion."

The "recent press releases" were stories in the religious and secular media which quoted a letter Criswell wrote to a Dallas rabbi expressing "deep regret" about Smith's remarks. Criswell enclosed a copy of a letter written by J. William Angell, professor of religion at Wake Forest University, a Baptist-connected school in Winston-Salem, N.C., and said it "will speak the heart and persuasion of our Southern Baptist people."

Angell, in his letter, written to a New York rabbi, repudiated "in the strongest terms the reprehensible views" of Smith, calling them "untrue, unscriptural and unkind . . . far removed from the teachings and spirit of the Jesus whom he pretends to serve."

Angell inferred Smith is a "self-righteous bigot," who "is one of a group of Southern Baptist power

politicians who, unfortunately, have maneuvered themselves into places of leadership." It further compared him with "Haman, Hitler, Arafat and Khomeini."

Criswell was not available for clarifying comment, but sources close to the pastor say he was not completely aware of the contents of Angell's letter when he enclosed it with his own note.

In his written comment to Baptist Press, Criswell lauded Smith "as one of the greatest preachers in our era," and noted Smith's accomplishment of baptizing more than 2,000 converts in a single year as "unequaled in recent Christian history."

It further noted Smith "loves the Jews . . . (and) believes that God's special blessing rests upon the Jewish people and the State of Israel."

Criswell concludes: "With confidence and anticipation I rejoiced when he was elected president of our Southern Baptist Convention in St. Louis and I shall no less rejoice when he is reelected president in Los Angeles next June."

Rogers, in a meeting with fellow

pastors this week, presented a resolution he had jotted on a napkin which noted: "We want him (Smith) to know of our thoughtfulness for his service and pledge to him our love and prayers."

In preliminary remarks, Rogers called Smith a "sincere, doctrinally-pure president," who "is not stupid."

"I was there when Bailey Smith made his now-famous remark. It was a side comment as he was praising Jesus. Had he had more time to frame it, he would have framed his statement better, or perhaps not at all," he said.

Rogers, whose resolution was seconded by Jerry Glisson, pastor of Leewood Baptist Church and Rogers' appointee to head the SBC committee on committees, said he was not speaking directly to the controversy: "I don't want a resolution about whether God does or does not hear the prayers of a Jew, but I do want us to affirm our president."

"We need to stand behind him. The worst thing we can do is take cheap shots at him."



Annette and Carey Cox and Marc Padelford.

Trust Fund Student Is MC Senior Now

By Harold Kitchings,
Executive Secretary

Mississippi Baptist Foundation

On December 31, 1975, Carey E. and Annette B. Cox, established with the Mississippi Baptist Foundation a trust fund designated for a ministerial student at Mississippi College.

Marc Padelford, a senior ministerial student from Jackson, is visible evidence of the culmination of a dream of long standing by the Coxes.

This Trust, known and administered as the "Carey E. and Annette B. Cox Trust Fund," was established because they wanted to make certain some worthy ministerial student would not have his formal education aborted for financial reasons.

Cox, a 1934 graduate of Mississippi College, has not forgotten the financial challenge placed upon the student who desires to receive the formal education needed to prepare for God's call to special Christian service.

Cox served as a faithful and dedicated pastor in churches at Terry, Hazlehurst, West Point, and Brandon, Mississippi, during which time he also served as a member and President of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

He also served as a trustee of the Mississippi Baptist Hospital and William Carey College. Later, he was elected as a trustee of the Mississippi Baptist Foundation, where he was named president of the board.

It was from this last position that Cox was named executive secretary-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Foundation.

His nine years of ministry (1968-1976) in this position served as a solidifying force in the continued growth and expansion of this agency of the Mississippi Baptist Convention that encourages every Mississippi Baptist to become involved in eternal Christian stewardship.

Missionaries Face Hazards While Driving

BANGKOK, Thailand (BP) — Southern Baptist missionary Mack Burris received a one-year suspended sentence and a \$100 fine Oct. 31 as a result of a traffic accident in which an 18-year-old Thai youth was killed.

But he considers the decision an answer to the prayers of the people of his church and those by friends and relatives in the United States who were aware of the court case. Charged with negligent homicide, Burris could have received a four-year prison sentence.

Burris, pastor of the English-language Calvary Baptist Church in Bangkok, said the deacons of his church fasted on the day of the court hearing. In the weeks before the final decision, an Australian member of the international congregation shared the prayer concern with a men's prayer group in Australia, and other friends and family joined in the prayers.

"The Lord really lifted the burden," Burris said. "I felt a calmness and peace and was able to concentrate on my work at the church."

Burris and his 15-year-old son, Walter Mack Jr., were turning into the American Embassy July 7 when the accident occurred. As they were crossing the bus and truck lane nearest the curb on the busy Bangkok street, their vehicle was hit by a large water truck. The young man sitting on top of the truck fell to the pavement and was killed.

The missionary was charged in the case with failure to stop and look before crossing the bus and truck lane.

Because Burris had been judged at fault, the company insuring Southern Baptist missionaries in Thailand made settlement with the family of the accident victim and Burris himself added to the amount to help care for the victim's survivors.

A 16-year missionary veteran from South Carolina, Burris served in Singapore-Malaysia before transferring to Thailand about a year and a half ago.

Burris urged Southern Baptists to pray specifically for their missionaries as they drive. A number of missionaries, faced with hazardous driving conditions in other countries, also have been involved in serious accidents. A missionary on another continent recently commented, "Driving is the most dangerous thing we do."

Scottsdale, Ariz. (EP) — Four young Californians have just completed a six-month, 2,500-mile hike from Mexico to Canada over the Pacific Crest Trail. Sponsored at \$6 much per mile for their long journey, Steve Flanagan, Nathan Duddles, Charlie Mosley, and Doug Rapp left the Mexican border south of San Diego on March 31. They arrived September 29 at Manning Park Lodge in British Columbia, Canada.

En route, they plodded through deep snow, faced the threat of hungry bears waking up from long hibernation, and were forced to detour because of the Mt. St. Helens volcanic eruption. They had often hiked at an elevation of over 8,000 feet.

The truth doesn't hurt unless it ought to. — B. C. Forbes

Newsbriefs In The World Of Religion



Tokyo, Japan (EP) — Unprecedented crowds in Japanese Christian history broke records for attendance in Tokyo when a capacity crowd of 43,000 braved cold winds in Kogaku Stadium for the final meeting of the Japan Billy Graham Crusade and more than eleven percent of them responded to the invitation to receive Christ as Savior. In every city during the October 4-26, six-city evangelistic tour, Crusade crowds broke records for attendance for any event of any kind in most of the stadiums and arenas.

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (EP) — As a channel for famine relief in Ethiopia, Sudan Interior Mission has distributed 20 tons of protein supplement to the Sidama region in the south, and 20 tons to other areas. Two medical teams sponsored by TEAR Fund in United Kingdom and Holland, have been active since early September. Water tanks and blankets were expected to arrive by October.

A report from the Neghelli-Borano area states corn is standing dead in the fields, due to the failure of this year's rains.

Coquille, Ore. (EP) — Church members of the newly completed Church of the Nazarene here had opportunity recently to demonstrate the love of Christ.

Three teenagers vandalized the church. Hymn books and Bibles were thrown in the baptistry. The piano and organ were overturned. Pews were stacked up and burned. Fire extensively damaged the inside of the church, and the congregation is now meeting in a nearby Seventh Day Ad-

ventist church. The church's new pastor, on the scene only a few weeks, lost 25 years worth of books and sermon notes in the fire.

The following Sunday church members picked up the mothers of the boys and brought them to church. The church has gone to the youngsters to minister rather than carry the process through the courts. Other churches and congregations have responded with donations of materials to the Nazarene church.

Newton Will Edit Home Board News

Jim Newton, editor of the SBC Brotherhood Commission's *World Mission Journal* for the past 7½ years, has been named editor of news services for the SBC Home Mission Board in Atlanta, effective Dec. 8.

Newton is a former assistant director of Baptist Press, news service of the

Southern Baptist Convention, and will serve as Atlanta Bureau Chief for Baptist Press. A native of Texas, Newton was press representative for the Baptist General Convention of Texas from 1959-65.

Newton is married to the former Pat Tullos of Clinton, Miss., graduate of Mississippi College and former employee with the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Witness Commitment Challenge:

Obey Great Commission

On Sunday, January 11, Southern Baptist churches will observe Witness Commitment Day. Southern Baptist church members will be personally challenged to fulfill their responsibility to the Great Commission.

Every Christian has his own world, in which he lives, works and plays, where he must witness for Christ. God places his children in strategic places and expects them to share the good news of the gospel with the persons they contact.

Christians sensitized by the Holy Spirit are aware of the divine appointment which God prepares for them. Anywhere there is a person seeking God, there is also a person whom God wants to use to tell this person the message of salvation through Jesus Christ. For every seeking soul, like the Ethiopian eunuch in the desert or Cornelius, God has a Philip or a Peter to tell the story of Jesus.

Churches must not only challenge their members to witness, they must provide training to equip them to become effective witnesses. Southern Baptists have three excellent processes for training Christian witnesses. Lay Evangelism Schools involve a group, both adults and youth, in a concentrated effort in learning the basics of how to witness. The Lay Evangelism School consists of a three

Testament. TELL Witness Training begins where the individual is in motivation, knowledge, skills and spiritual perception. It helps one to function as an effective witness for Christ. TELL equipment includes an audiovisual set and a case of 14 cartridges, available through the Personal Evangelism Department, Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, 1000 Spring Street, NW, Atlanta, GA 30367.

Continuing Witness Training is the third process of witness training promoted by the Evangelism Section of the Home Mission Board. It is an intensive, on-the-job witness training process. It requires memorization of a model presentation of the gospel and scripture verses. During the 13-week process, the pastor/leader provides instructions through formal training. The equipper, who is a skilled witness, trains two apprentices in the process, demonstrating to them how to witness in actual field experiences. Continuing Witness Training is designed to begin with one or two equippers and two to four apprentices, and multiply witnesses in geometric proportions. Continuing Witness Training is now in the pilot process and will be thoroughly field tested before being ready for use in the churches in 1982.

Witness Commitment Day information is included in the 1980-82

Total Gifts Enjoy Big October Jump

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Southern Baptists began their new fiscal year with significant increases in both the national Cooperative Program and in designated giving.

Gifts through the national Cooperative Program, to fund the missions and education enterprises of the Southern Baptist Convention, totaled \$5,850,887 during the first month of the new year, up 17.7 percent over October 1979.

Designated gifts, with contributions for world hunger accounting for much of the total, increased 138.2 percent over October 1979 to \$1.8 million.

Designated and undesignated gifts for October total \$7,658,193, an increase of 33.7 percent over last year.

Hunger Forum

(Continued from page 1)

tries, reviewed a position paper on relief ministries he prepared recently to aid the board in planning, but acknowledged that the Foreign Mission

Zimbabwe Missionaries Need Reinforcements; Ask For 21

By Irma Duke

only one church development consul-

there. From the time missionary Ar-

Seminary Trustees Note 'Inerrancy' Resolution

By Dan Martin
NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Trustees of Southern Baptists' six seminaries have taken note of — but responded differently — to a resolution on doctrinal integrity adopted at the 1980 St. Louis convention.

The resolution exhorted "trustees of seminaries and other institutions affiliated with or supported by the SBC to faithfully discharge their responsibility to carefully preserve the doctrinal integrity of our institutions."

Four of the seminaries — Southwestern, New Orleans, Southeastern and Midwestern — took action on the resolution while the other two — Southern and Golden Gate — delayed action until the spring of 1981.

Only one institution — Southeastern — responded directly, while the other three took indirect action.

Each of the actions, however, re-

fused to use "infallible" and "inerrant," key words to those attacking the seminaries for alleged "liberalism."

Southeastern trustees adopted a statement to be included in their annual report to the convention which says: "The trustees... perceive their trusteeship as a sacred trust. We acknowledge the resolution... and assure the convention that this seminary employs, and continues employment of, personnel under the Lordship of Jesus Christ and in accordance with scriptural truths."

It lists 29 scripture references, identical to the list included in the Baptist Faith and Message statement adopted by the SBC in 1963. Southeastern president Randall Lolley said the response was "within the context" of the statement, and added the scriptures "speak to the matter of doctrinal integrity very adequately."

At Southwestern, trustees approved a resolution praising faculty and administration, and requested board chairman Kenneth Chafin of Houston to ask the Committee on Order of Business at the 1981 SBC in Los Angeles for "at least an hour" in which trustees of Southwestern and the other five seminaries can report to the convention "about our stewardship."

Chafin will contact Doug Watterson, pastor of First Baptist Church, Knoxville, Tenn., chairman of the order of business committee, to ask for it.

"I think Southern Baptists deserve to know what we have been doing since we were elected," he said. "If they have to bump some inspirational speaker, I hope they will."

At Midwestern, trustees opted not to respond. "We read the resolution and saw in it no specific instructions to make a report to anybody," said Paul Batson of Marion, S. C., trustee chairman.

He said it exhorted trustees "to do what we have been doing all along," which is to "seek to ascertain beliefs and the spiritual life of our institution without standing over our people or putting them through an inquisition."

The resolution, he said, was general. "We cannot refute generalized attacks. When the specifics come in, we will deal with them. Trustees already have answered criticism of one professor, but it keeps surfacing again and again. We resolved that two or three years ago."

He said he knows of no liberals at the seminary. "I wish those people who stand way off and take potshots at our people could sit down and know these men. They are soul winners, believe the Bible, are committed to the Lord Jesus Christ and to service in proclaiming the cross."

At New Orleans, board chairman Robert McGee of Ruston, La., said the executive committee drafted "An Open Letter to Southern Baptists."

"Our statement is not an effort to comply with the resolution," McGee said. "That would be impossible. Our statement is an effort to tell Southern Baptists that we are doctrinally and denominationally committed... that we haven't lost our moorings."

Board Sets Goals For Growing, Going, Giving

The following is a group of goals for 1980-81 set by various departments of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, and approved by the board's administration.

All of the goals are church-related rather than board-related. The convention board can do nothing without the support of the churches. These goals are simply special areas in which the board is able to help churches by providing leader training and information.

BOLD GROWING... By providing New Testament based churches and missions for all people.

- GOALS:**
1. To assist churches in increasing Bible study enrollment by 4500 by September 30, 1981.
 2. To assist churches in providing opportunities for all persons in our associational territory to hear the gospel. This will result in baptizing one person for every 33 members, an increase in baptisms of at least 1800 per year.
 3. To assist churches in establishing 71 points of witness in new geographic areas or with new cultural groups by September 30, 1981.
 4. To assist churches in establishing 33 churches or church-type missions by September 30, 1981.
- BOLD GOING**... By seeking and equipping the called, and cooperating in the support of persons participating in Bold Mission Thrust.

- GOALS:**
1. Encourage and assist churches in seeking out the called and supporting 25 additional career missionaries by September 30, 1981.
 2. Encourage and assist churches in seeking out the called and cooperating in the support of 50 Mission Service Corps and 1500 other short-term volunteers by September 30, 1981.
 3. Encourage churches to enlist 30,000 church members in presenting the gospel in their own localities by September 30, 1981.
- BOLD GIVING**... By providing adequate financial resources to accomplish Bold Mission Thrust.

- GOALS:**
1. Assist churches in enlarging their financial base by 15% in 1981.
 2. Encourage and assist the churches in increasing the giving percentage base through the Cooperative Program by 1% in 1981.
 3. Encourage and assist the churches in increasing the gifts (dollar amount) to the associations by 10% by 1981.
 4. Encourage and assist the churches in increasing the special missions offerings as follows:

STATE MISSIONS10% increase in 1981.
HOME MISSIONS10% increase in 1981.
FOREIGN MISSIONS10% increase in 1981.

Youths To Hear Peter Jenkins

NASHVILLE — "It's My World" is the theme for the winter youth celebration to be held Dec. 28-31 at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center.

Program personalities for the conference for senior high youth will include Peter Jenkins, author of Walk

Across America, and his wife Barbara.

Cost of the celebration is \$58 which includes lodging, meals, program and conference fees. Registration and fees should be mailed to Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center, Box 128, Ridgecrest, NC 28770.

Southwestern Selects Tolar

William B. Tolar has been selected as new dean of the School of Theology at Southwestern Seminary at Fort Worth, Tex.

Tolar's selection was approved by the seminary's board of trustees during their fall meeting Oct. 20-22 in Fort Worth. He will assume his new duties Jan. 1, 1981.

Tolar, 52, succeeds Huber L. Drumwright, who resigned last summer to become executive secretary of the Arkansas Baptist Convention. D. David Garland, professor of Old Testament, will continue to serve as acting dean until January.

In addition to his new assignment, Tolar will retain his faculty rank as professor of biblical backgrounds and archaeology. He will continue to teach limited course loads each semester.

A native of Louisiana, he holds bachelor's and master's degrees from Baylor University and the master of divinity and doctor of theology degrees from Southwestern. He has served as pastor of several Texas churches and was on the religion faculty at Baylor, 1965-65.

Southeastern

Reaffirms Love For The Jews

WAKE FOREST, N.C. — Expressing a grave concern for current "manifestations of anti-Semitism" and deploring "its resurgence in our time," the faculty of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary here has adopted unanimously a statement of "reaffirmation of our love and support for the Jews."

The resolution also reaffirms the historic statement adopted by the 1972 Southern Baptist Convention, of which the seminary is an agency, in which Baptists were "enjoined to follow the Christian attitude and practice of love for Jews, who with all other people are equally beloved of God."

Allen Will Speak At Alcohol-Drugs Conference

Jimmy Allen, President of the Radio and Television Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention and former President of the Southern Baptist Convention, will be the concluding speaker at a conference for religious leaders on alcohol and other drugs scheduled for Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, December 4-6.

Allen will be speaking on "The Challenge of the Drug Problem to Church Members and the Church Community."

In his former pastorate, the First Baptist Church, San Antonio, Tex., Allen's ministry included extensive work among the alcoholic and victims of other drugs in the community.

The church operated a restaurant served largely by members providing labor at no cost and then using the savings to supply meals daily for 60 to 100

persons who were victimized by drugs, including alcohol.

The conference will include other personalities of national stature in the field of alcohol and drug abuse. Among them are Bishop Roger Blanchard, Boston, Massachusetts; Ex-Senator Harold Hughes, Royal Oak, Maryland; Richard Phillipson, formerly of England and now doing specialty consultant work in Washington, DC; and Ashton Brisolar, of New Orleans, LA.

In addition to the general sessions there will be 12 workshops for persons who desire to equip themselves in special areas of service in their local church or in their religious community of which they are a part.

Further information of the meeting can be obtained by writing Owen Cooper, Box 388, Yazoo City, Miss.

First, Clinton Leads In Sunday School Awards

Leading churches in Sunday School Leadership Awards, 1979-80, were First, Clinton (Hinds-Madison), 274; Daniel Memorial, Jackson (Hinds-Madison), 132; Calvary, Jackson (Hinds-Madison), 98; South Side, Meridian (Lauderdale), 84; Harrisburg, Tupelo (Lee), 77; Ridgeland (Hinds-Madison), 67; East Moss Point, Moss Point (Jackson), 57; Oak Forest, Jackson (Hinds-Madison), 47; First, Hattiesburg (Lebanon), 43; and Parkway, Jackson (Hinds-Madison), 33.

Leading associations in Sunday School Leadership Awards, 1979-80, were Hinds-Madison, 853; Lauderdale, 219; Lee, 171; Lebanon, 131; and Jackson County, 114.

S S Launches Plan: 8.5 Million By 1985

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — There are no large churches in America today compared to the millions of persons who do not attend any church, Southern Baptist Convention President Bailey Smith said.

Smith spoke to 120 professionals in the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's Sunday School department during a meeting to launch a five-year plan to enlarge Sunday School enrollment to 8.5 million by 1985.

Smith, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church of Del City, Okla., said his 14,000-plus member congregation is small in comparison with the 500,000 persons in the county who do not attend any church.

He noted church leaders cannot afford to feel successful when their church is experiencing rapid growth because the number of persons not yet reached remains far greater. Earlier this year Smith's congregation held a three-week crusade in which 1,353 persons made professions of faith.

Sunday School department director Harry Piland said "the urgency of the goal to increase the denomination's Sunday School enrollment from 7.3 million to 8.5 million by 1985 lies in the fact that between 130 and 160 million persons in America are unsaved."

He noted that between 1880 and 1960 Southern Baptist Sunday School enrollment doubled every 20 years. Since 1960, however, it has remained virtually static at 7.3 million.

The 8.5 by '85 plan includes annual enrollment goals. The 1980-81 goal is to increase net enrollment by 100,000 persons, from 7.3 to 7.4 million.

Showing a new increase of 100,000 in one year looms large in light of the fact that approximately 1,195,000 persons must be enrolled to show a net gain of 100,000, Piland said, because of losses due to nationwide mobility.

While the denominational statistics show the scope of the task of reaching more people for Bible study, 8.5 by '85 will succeed or fail in local churches, Piland said.

Neither the Sunday School Board nor any other agency can accomplish 8.5 by '85. The churches must achieve the goal or it will not be done," he said.

Participating churches will be urged to set up and maintain a Sunday School enrollment file and to set and report annual enrollment goals.

Also, nine basics of Sunday School growth will be emphasized through materials and conferences.

They include making a commitment to growth and enrolling prospects and starting new classes and departments. Others are enlisting and training workers, providing space and equipment, conducting weekly workers' meetings and visitation and teaching the Bible to win the lost and develop the saved.

"I don't know of any church that is doing these nine things that is not growing," Piland said.

Workshops Show Creative Skills



The workshops showed leaders how to use such tools as cartoons, pipecleaners, aluminum foil, and puzzles to help bring out points and begin interpersonal communication in a classroom. Said Adkinson at Temple Baptist Church, Hattiesburg, "I do not believe Church Training should be another Sunday School."

Bob Simmons Will Lead Bible Study Preview Nov. 18

Philippians: Rejoice in the Lord is the book to be studied in January, 1981. A Bible study preview for leaders who will be teaching the book is scheduled for Nov. 18 at the Baptist Building, Jackson.

This preview will be led by Bob Simmons, missionary to the Philippines, who is a professor at Philippine Baptist Seminary in Baguio.

The time of the preview will be 9:30 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Study books and other materials will be available for purchase at the meeting, courtesy of the Baptist Book Store.

Guayaquil, Ecuador (EP) — Evangelist Luis Palau's September 7-21 crusade in this coastal port city of 1,100,000 was commended by evangelicals for making a nationwide impact for the Gospel. Crusade Committee President Jaime Cepeda observed, "This is by far the largest evangelistic event in the history of Guayaquil, a city with less than 1% claiming to be evangelical."

The crusade, which was broadcast on local radio and then transmitted to at least ten countries in Central and South America, had a cumulative attendance of 76,000 in Guayaquil, with 2,850 registered commitments to Christ, plus a radio listening audience estimated in the millions.

Mississippi Baptist Activities

- Nov. 16-19 Foreign Mission Graded Series Study (WMU)
- Nov. 17 Associational "M" Night (CT)
- Nov. 18 January Bible Study, Baptist Building, Jackson, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. (SS)
- Nov. 21 Adult Sunday School Leadership Training, Alta Woods, Jackson, 1:00-4:30 p.m. (SS)

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The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Editorials

A new beginning . . .

We can change the moral climate

The election is over. The newly elected president garnered more than half of the votes nationwide, and they came in such a way as to make it a landslide victory in the electoral college.

He won more than half of the votes in Mississippi.

The new president won the election during a campaign in which moral issues played a part perhaps as never before. Well might such issues have been a large part of the campaign, for surely our nation has fallen to moral depths such as those of us of the middle years of life have never known before.

We remember when life was much more simple and morality was much more a part of the consideration of how life was to be lived. Perhaps we can return to some form of those days. Perhaps we cannot.

The new president was elected to some degree because there were many in the nation who hoped that he would be able to lead us out of the moral morass into which we have fallen. Certainly all of us would be overjoyed if this were to prove to be the case. Whether we voted for him or not, however, we must not be too quick to criticize him if he is not able to offer such leadership immediately, for the likelihood is that it will take awhile.

What the Baptist Record has been trying to say all along is that it is the people who are voting who have sunk to moral depths, and they have dragged some of their elected leaders with them. It was not necessarily the elected officials who started the moral skid. Christian people banding together to elect Christian officials is not to be condemned. It is no guarantee,

however, that the official will conduct himself according to the preconceived views of all of the Christians who voted for him.

So let's not be quick to criticize the president if conditions don't improve dramatically right away. The people cause the conditions. If the people of America generally continue in a moral slump, more than likely there will be those in office who will follow in the same train. The change that is needed will come about in the heart through witnessing and preaching. We all must be involved in bringing such a change to our nation. If any of our elected leaders can provide leadership in moving in that direction, we must be thankful.

In the matter of morality and elections, the voters in Rankin County

again beat back the efforts of liquor interests to have the county come out from under the dry status. For this we can only be thankful.

The same issue will rear its head again and again and again. It can be defeated only by determined effort each time. We must be vigilant always.

This is the week of the Mississippi Baptist Convention. This has been an excellent year in many respects for Mississippi Baptists, but there have been some times of anxiety along the way. A number of churches and their pastors have lost the ability to minister together, and politics and theological questions have caused some diversity of thinking.

With the convention can come a new beginning.



"DEACON MCHENRY IS UNABLE TO LEAD OUR PRAYER DUE TO THE HIGHLY EMOTIONAL GAME YESTERDAY."

Editor's Note: We are publishing all of the letters we are able to get printed on this page concerning religion in the recent national election. We feel that the subject has been explored sufficiently. There are other letters on this page because we feel it is time to turn our attention to other matters. We regret that we do not have space to use all of the letters that are submitted.

No Separation

The current hysteria over the issue of separation of church and state is a little late. While it is assumed by most of us that we now have a separation of church and state, the opposite is true. We have for years had a state religion which influences our government; education; and yes, our churches. Now the prime target is the home and family. The religion of secular humanism is the "state religion." (See humanist manifesto I and II.)

In the 1961 Torcaso Decision and the 1964 Seegar Decision, the Supreme Court ruled that secular humanism is a religion.

Also, to those who say the First Amendment of the Constitution is the basis for the idea of separation of church and state, where does it specifically say that? To quote verbatim, the supposed basis for this ideology: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof."

This has often been misinterpreted by those who would like to see our nation entirely separated from God.

A fact in point, in the Supreme Court ruling which supposedly removed Bible reading and prayer from public schools, all justices concurred in stating "There is nothing in this decision . . . inconsistent with the fact that school children . . . are officially encouraged to express love of our country . . . and belief in God." (Engle v. Vitale, 1962.)

Yet in many schools today our children are not allowed to pray on a voluntary basis, and instead of being taught about creation, they are being taught the theory of evolution.

Joel Mansfield
Picaune

Yes, In The Voting Booth

I cannot let your extremely ill-considered and naïve editorial of October 2, Not In The Voting Booth, pass without a few pertinent comments.

What conclusion can one draw from this state of affairs? A Christian politician is not automatically a competent politician any more than a Christian doctor is a competent doctor. A Christian airline pilot is desirable; a competent airline pilot is essential for the safety of all aboard.

Yes, we want competent moral men in office. Yes, we want competent Christian men in office just the same as the communists want competent communists in office or the labor unions want pro-labor men in office or the Catholics want Catholics in power, or the liberals want liberals in control. These people determine the destiny of our nation.

How do we accomplish this? The voting booth. Better men and women will make a better nation.

This republic is languishing at the hands of people who are bent on destroying it and you say in effects — "everybody get saved and the situation will be corrected." Come now, our Lord himself recognized that the whole world would not accept Him. Our Lord was not as naïve as your editorial.

Moral Majority and others are not trying to force people to become Christians; that is nonsense. Moral Majority is trying to get people into positions of leadership who have not abandoned the religious principles upon which this nation was founded. If an office holder calls himself a Christian, and acts in a manner inconsistent with these principles, or has shown himself to be incompetent in a variety of areas, he should be expelled by the people who trusted him both Christian and non-Christian. This is done in the voting booth.

Charles R. Moulder
Hattiesburg

Moral Decline

For sometime now I have read editorials on the ministry of Dr. Jerry Falwell and others as Bro. James Robison.

These editorials have been against rather than praising the Lord. I praise God for people like Jerry Falwell and his work for God! One article criticized Dr. Falwell for the budget the Liberty Road Baptist Church has — tell me why the Baptist Record should run down a man for doing God's work? Is it because you people are jealous because his budget is larger than the Southern Baptists?

humble ourselves and pray and seek God's face and turn or repent, then God promises to hear and forgive and heal our land.

Joshua 24:15 says "As for me and my house we will serve the Lord."

Whom will you serve?

Joe T. Massey
Bruce

The Bottom Line

I am writing in response to a number of "Christian Right" articles that have appeared in your paper in the last several weeks. The "bottom line" of these articles seems to have been that the organized church should have little or nothing to do with the political shaping of our country.

The alternative to involvement by Christian people on political issues that concern them is for someone else, e.g. homosexuals, atheists, humanists, to dictate to them. It is my feeling that we in America are not nearly as well off as we think we are. Any newspaper should convince even the skeptic. Should Christians have nothing to say on such moral issues as abortion-murder? Should the organized church put on moral blinders as to the qualifications and stands on these issues by political candidates? Or, should we leave moral issues to the heretofore mentioned groups? Can we depend on the Supreme Court, the body that took away the rights from the unborn and through implication has taken Christmas carols out of some schools, to protect the rights of Christians?

Though I believe in voting after the dictates of one's conscience, a conscience with no absolutes and beliefs cannot be trusted as reliable or intelligent. There seems to be a feeling that involvement in political issues will make it more difficult to reach the lost, but is this true? It has been my experience that people are looking for someone to follow that takes a stand on their beliefs. Absolutes and beliefs must be expressed and taught to be learned.

In conclusion I urge Christians to vote for those candidates who believe what you believe and will carry out those beliefs. The Scripture says the diligent will bare rule. I trust it will be the Christian diligent.

Henry Breakenridge
Hattiesburg

our nickels, noses and noise; we have given out 'uncertain sounds' and few have prepared for battle. "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge" Hos. 4:6.

I am convinced that until our sermons and Sunday School lessons spill from the four walls and into the street, market places, and ballot boxes that the lethargy you speak of will guarantee our tobaggan ride to destruction.

Bernard Phelps
Batesville

The Lesser Task

From reading the many letters in our State Paper, and having freedom of expression I would like to offer my opinion.

I would rather hear my pastor preach Jesus Christ crucified, resurrected, ascended and now making intercession for me than to have him make unnecessary expense in time and travel when his job is full time.

Nowhere in the New Testament do I find Jesus advocating or attempting to overthrow the Roman Government.

If the participants of the "Round Table" and the Moral Majority wish to get in politics, they should be free to do so but not at the expense of neglecting their duty as pastors and ministers in the Master's Service. It seems to me "they" are choosing a lesser task.

Keep up the good work in unbiased reporting.

James B. Smith
a member of FBC, Saltillo

The Bailey Smith Statement

After having read a transcription of Dr. Bailey Smith's message delivered at the National Affairs Building in Dallas, Texas, Aug. 21-22, 1980, we agree with and support his theological position concerning the supremacy of Jesus as the Christ.

Baptist Ministers' Conference
Marion County Baptist Association
J. Roy McComb, President
The text containing the point mentioned above was supplied by First Church, Columbia, and is presented below.—Editor

The Supremacy of Christ

I Samuel 7:3
... There are five elements if we are to see . . . revival, and let me give them to you very quickly. Number one, if America is going to know revival there must be the preaching of the gospel.

you and I don't have enough backbone to stand for what's true in Christ Jesus. He is the one and only, the blessed Lord Jesus Christ.

There must be the preaching of the supremacy of Christ . . .

Ministry in Africa

Six years ago, a young man and his wife and three young sons came to Mississippi all the way from South Africa searching for an education so they could return to their country and serve as missionaries to their people.

They came on faith, since as citizens of South Africa they could not be financed or sponsored by our Foreign Mission Board. The story is long and interesting but they settled in Clinton for four years and after graduating from Mississippi College, they moved to New Orleans to attend seminary.

Because of their citizenship, they could only work on campus; but both Dewi and Felicity found work there while they both attended school and sent the children to local elementary schools.

Last year, in 1979, at Christmas, Felicity received word from Africa that her mother was dying with cancer. Of course, her dearest wish was to go and see her mother again before her death, but she never dreamed it possible because of the cost. Dear Christians across Mississippi made it possible though, and she flew to her mother's bedside, was with her while she was still ambulatory, and was able to minister to her until her death.

Dewi, Felicity, and the boys completed their education as of October 17; they have shipped their worldly possessions; and they left the first week in November for Africa. They have sacrificed the entire period in an attempt to save enough to make the trip back. Some Mississippi Baptists assisted these wonderful Christians as they left to go back on their Bold Mission. Commission Road Baptist Church, Commission Road, Long Beach, collected the funds. Our pastor is David Lee.

I have often wondered how they chose Mississippi but am so glad God led them here for they have touched so many people's lives in the area. They have made us all more aware of missions.

Please join me in praying for them as they return to their native country. God has opened doors for them all.

Moving Too Fast

I read with great interest about the proposed Clarke-MC merger. I graduated from both, have a son at Clarke now, and will have a daughter at MC next year.

The proposal may have merit. The trustees are honorable and intelligent men who have prayerfully sought for the best solution to a real problem. My concern is that this may be moving a bit too fast. The first time I hear of it is mid-October before the convention in November.

Clarke meets a real need in a unique way. It now seems to be reviving. Perhaps a little more time might be in order.

I guess what I'm trying to say is that Clarke, like MC, is my "alma mater." I would like to know that my mama is really dead before they bury her.

Tom Sims
Richton

This letter came in time to be used before the convention. It got mixed in with some letters on politics that came too late to get in before the election and therefore was not printed before the convention. We are running it after conversation with the writer to understand that it continues to project his views and with apology to the writer for having let it get misplaced.—Editor

Stamp Program Ends

Would you please notify all Mississippi Baptists that the "Stamps For Food" Program sponsored by the Salvation Army in Louisville, Kentucky, has been discontinued. I want to thank all individuals and church groups who so faithfully saved used postage stamps for this program.

Betty Axtell
Clinton

A Change In Pastors

In reading the article Troubled Ministers and Troubled Churches by Clifton Perkins, I am led to write you. So many Baptists have gotten tired of their pastors, and I'm sure there have been a lot of pastors who have desired a change. This article has verified that fact.

What's wrong with the system of changing pastors every 4 or 5 years? It seems to work with our Methodist

Community Missionary

"I am retired now, and I have more time; I want to be involved in mission ministry firsthand. What can I do to help?" Carl Edmonson asked a year ago when he visited the Simpson County Baptist Center.

After overcoming her shock at finding someone so eager for extra work, Mrs. Glen Schilling, the wife of the Simpson director of missions, asked him, "Would you like to teach people to read? or teach English to people of other nationalities?"

Edmonson recalled the Laotian refugees he had met in Houston, Texas, who desperately needed a knowledge of English, and he thought of the teacher credits he'd earned in his youth at Indiana State, and answered yes, that's what he'd like to do.

A little over a year ago, the Indiana native retired, after 40 years in exploration and research with the Exxon Oil Company. He and his wife, after living in Texas and Oklahoma and 13 other states, moved to Magee to be near their son, Tom, and his wife and two sons, who live at Star. Their son, John, lives in Houston, but they wanted "a quiet place, like living in the country."

To prepare for his ministry, he attended a literacy workshop at Broadmoor Church, Jackson. Then when a Laotian family of boat people moved to Mendenhall he began teaching five of them English lessons. "The dad was really digging — studying hard," he recalls. "The small children learned fastest. The mother laughed at herself, the way she sounded. She especially wanted to learn words related to the household. I could tell that they were homesick, though." At Christmas time, Edmonson shared with the Buddhist family the Christian meaning of the holiday.

One day the family went to Jackson and coincidentally met old friends from Laos. Afterward they left Mendenhall, and their English teacher lost contact with them.

Edmonson's next pupil was a senior citizen, a black man, a Christian, who had worked for 50 years on the railroad and after retirement was working as janitor at the Mendenhall church. The man was eager to learn to read, so Edmonson gave him lessons, in a classroom at the church.

The Mendenhall jail provided his next pupils. With the sheriff's permission, Edmonson let it be known that he was willing to teach, and found three prisoners who wanted to learn to read, two black men and one white man.

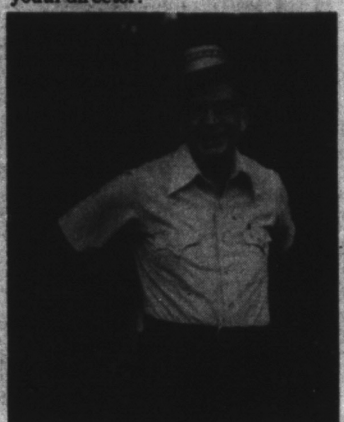
"Those prisoners got a kick out of doing their 'home' work!" Edmonson said with a grin. "We used the Bible as one of our textbooks. Each day we read the Bible and underlined passages together, and I prayed."

He added, "I told them I was not there to accuse them of their misdeeds or to dig into their past." One of the three was a new Christian, converted during a service that was part of a church's jail ministry. One of the others said he had been a Christian "a long time ago" and "wanted to get back close to the Lord." All three finished two books in the series Edmonson was teaching. Then they were sent to Parchman, and the class was discontinued.

His current pupil is a man who works on an oil rig in the Gulf, who is on the rig 28 days and home 28 days. For three months Edmonson has been teaching him reading. "He believes that if he can learn to read and write he

can progress further in his job. He's doing well, and is eager to keep on."

Edmonson works in his church as well as in his association. He is outreach leader, substitute teacher in Sunday School at First, Magee and member of the search committee for a youth director.



Carl Edmonson

His interest in ministering to the needs of those around him gained impetus while he was living in Houston, and was a member of the Willow Meadows Baptist Church. "Thousands of low income people live in Houston," he said. "Our pastor, Ralph Langley, kept saying, 'Let's do something for them.'"

(Ralph is now pastor at First, Huntsville, Ala., and was a speaker this week at the Mississippi Baptist Convention.)

Edmonson got involved in helping the people of one low income area, where Latins, refugees, blacks, and others lived. He helped to provide clothing. He took groups of teen-agers who sang and witnessed. He gave of himself however and wherever possible. "I received such joy through that ministry that I wanted to continue it in some way here," he said. "And what I do, I want to do for the Lord."

"For instance, there was one old man, nearly blind, nearly deaf, whom we would visit. I got to know him well. He liked for our teen-agers to sing. Then he got beaten up by a robber, and had to be put in a nursing home, and died soon afterward."

Edmonson was converted at age 15, and was baptized in the Eel River in Indiana. After graduation from Indiana State, he did graduate study in physics at Purdue University. While there, at West Lafayette, Ind., he met Ethel Vinson of Virginia, a nurse, and married her. In Houston, Mrs. Edmonson was supervisor of the labor and delivery and gyn surgery unit in one of the hospitals.

"Right at the beginning," Edmonson said, "I tell my pupils the reason for my teaching. I make it clear that the Bible will be used as a textbook, and that my purpose is to be a witness for Christ. The reading part comes second."

All that we send into the lives of others comes back into our own. — Edwin Markham

(You can tell where the lamplighter has been by the trail of light he has left behind him.)

Goodness is the only investment that never fails. — Ralph Waldo Emerson

Life-Changing Commitments Are Made At Baptist Women Retreat

During a Baptist Women retreat with the theme "Lifestyle Commitment — Me, Lord?" women from all parts of Mississippi made personal commitments "to do more for Christ during the Bold Mission Thrust of Southern Baptists." The weekend retreat was held at Camp Garayva.

Carolyn Weatherford, executive director, WMU, SBC challenged the women to do their part in supporting missions as she taught her book, *God Has Done His Part*.

Sue Tatum, corporate secretary for Mississippi Chemical Corporation, Yazoo City, explained the lifestyle evangelism workshops which she leads over the state. She attended a week of training at the Home Mission Board under Laura Fry, consultant in the Department of Evangelism.

The women made commitments to help with supplies for the Disaster Task Force of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board after hearing Rusty Griffin tell about this ministry. Griffin, consultant in the Brotherhood department, is in charge of this ministry.

Guy Henderson explained the Cooperative Program and how it ministers around our world through gifts from the churches.

Mrs. Steve Hicks, missionary to Mexico, shared her personal testimony of going to Mexico and told something of the work she and her husband do there.

James and Wilda Fancher and Bob and Mary Simmons shared, in an informal discussion, the mission work in

the Philippines. The Simmons serve as missionary associates, and the Fanchers spent six weeks as volunteers with them in January and February of this year. Simmons teaches New Testament in the Baptist seminary in Baguio City and his wife teaches piano and organ.

Harold Kitchings, Baptist Foundation executive secretary, explained the purpose and function of the Foundation; he said that anyone may continue to witness after death by leaving money to the Foundation.

Ethel McKeithen, Baptist Women consultant, announced that next year's retreat will be held with the Baptist Young Women Oct. 9-10. Mrs. Earl Kelly will teach her book, *The Gifted Woman*.

The theme for the retreat was mimed by Robin McKee, a member of



Carolyn Weatherford, Ethel McKeithen, and Sue Tatum.

Worldbeat

RICHMOND — A group of Christians in Indonesia has baptized 10 people, but these new Christians have no capable leader, according to Southern Baptist missionary Wendell Smith. Often they don't have a worship service unless Smith is there to lead them. Pray that God's Spirit will empower someone in the group to become their leader.

Pray for Christians in China and for other countries which do not allow Christian missionaries.

About two years ago divorce became legal in Brazil. Some problems which had been covered are coming out in the open. Pray for families being pulled apart because of this new law. Especially pray for one couple who have been very active in Baptist work.

The 42 Baptist churches in Mexico City have launched a three-year project of evangelism and church development. Pastors are committed to training laymen for "spiritual reproduction." This means developing the kind of personal evangelism that not only wins people to Christ, but also helps new Christians reach a spiritual maturity which will enable them in turn to repeat the process with others. Pray for the effectiveness of this effort. (WMU/FMB).

Former Exec Dies In Little Rock

LITTLE ROCK, ARK. (BP) — S. A. (Jack) Whitlow, retired executive secretary of the Arkansas State Baptist Convention, died Nov. 4 in Little Rock, six days after suffering a stroke. He was 74.

Whitlow headed the convention from 1958 until 1963 when he took early retirement in order to return to the pastorate. He entered the ministry at age 27, after resigning from a bank position.

He was pastor of First Baptist Church of Hope, Ark., as well as churches in Washington, Tupelo, Arkadelphia and Fort Royal, and in Morganfield, Ky.

He was a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia, attended Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and was a graduate of Southern Seminary.

Thief Breaks Through Roof Of Hospital

KEDIRI, Indonesia (BP) — More than \$12,000 was taken from Baptist Hospital, Kediri, Indonesia, early Oct. 17 by a thief who broke through the roof.

The \$12,152 taken included the hospital's October receipts through the 17th, which totaled \$9,760; \$1,600 belonging to the Baptist mission for hospital construction; and \$792 belonging to hospital director Don Duvall.

The thief came through the clay tile roof between midnight and 2 a.m. and cut through the false ceiling just above a filing cabinet onto which he lowered himself.

Kediri police are investigating the incident. They suspect someone familiar with the surroundings because he apparently knew where the filing cabinet was. However, they do not suspect any of the office personnel because \$5,000 in the cash register on top of the safe was not bothered.

the drama group of Broadmoor Church, Jackson.



Sue Tatum speaks to a Retreat group.



James and Wilda Fancher, Mrs. Bob Simmons, and Bob Simmons talk about the Philippines.



Central Dedicates Mobile Chapel

Central Church recently held dedication services for their mobile chapel and three acres of land located in Evergreen

Estates in Brandon. The church was constituted in December, 1979. J. T. Pannell is pastor.

Parkers, Riddells Recognized With Retiring Missionaries

By Anita Bowden

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — They represented 610 years of combined foreign missionary service, but that wasn't enough to satisfy the 18 retiring Southern Baptist missionaries, two couples having Mississippi ties.

At a recognition service in Richmond, the missionaries thanked Southern Baptists for the teamwork and support that allowed them to serve overseas. They just wish their service could continue.

Several mentioned that no missionaries were available to take their

place on the mission field.

One couple, Mr. and Mrs. John N. Thomas, from England and Canada originally, will retire on San Andres Isla, Colombia, where they served the last 10 years of their 29 years as Southern Baptist missionaries.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Frank Mitchell, from South Carolina, missionaries to Chile for 37 years, said since their retirement in February many people had asked if they had it to do over again, would they still be missionaries.

"That's easy to answer," Mitchell

said. "Yes. But a harder question is, if we had it to do differently, what would we do?"

He listed a deeper commitment to his work being more responsive to the Holy Spirit, loving the people he worked with more deeply and faster, letting the love of Christ show through him faster and resting more confidently on Christ's promise to always be with him.

Mrs. Alice May Jowers, from Louisiana, 32-year veteran of work among Chinese in China and the Philippines, remarked that when she was packing to return to the United States for retirement, it suddenly occurred to her that she had been praying incorrectly all those years.

"I had the tail when I should have had the head," she said. She explained that instead of praying, "Lord, help me to do your will," she realized she should have been praying, "Lord, you do it and let me help you."

Ruby Parker, from Texas, honored with her husband, John, from Mississippi, for 38 years' service in Chile, told of her experiences with a young alcoholic woman named Sylvia. One night Sylvia called her from a bar and asked Mrs. Parker to come get her.

"Well, I'd never been in a bar before," Mrs. Parker said. "But I decided no one would ever know that I

had been there. I went to the bar and called from there and asked for the girl, but she had left. Mrs. Parker went to another bar and another, hunting for the girl until finally one bartender told her that the police had taken Sylvia away.

Mrs. Parker said she remembers saying to herself, "Lord, why can't I leave Sylvia alone?"

She was never able to win Sylvia to Christ, and the girl, an alcoholic from childhood, died some time later. One day Mrs. Parker ran into Sylvia's brother. He told her that because of the love and concern she had shown Sylvia, he and his wife had decided to become Christians and his mother, also, was interested.

"I said to myself then, 'Now I know why I couldn't leave Sylvia alone,'" she said.

Other emeritus missionaries recognized during the service were the Victor L. Franks, from Illinois, who worked with Chinese people in China and Hong Kong for 33 years; Marie Conner, from Georgia, 36 years in China and Taiwan; the Gerald Riddells, from Texas and Mississippi, 36 years in Chile and Colombia; Ann Wolterman, from Arkansas, 26 years in Brazil; the Charles W. Dickson, from Texas, 33 years in Brazil; Viola Campbell, from Texas, 36 years in Mexico and the Baptist Spanish Publishing House, El Paso, Texas; and the Carl F. Whirlleys, from Florida and Alabama, 33 years in Nigeria.

The generous heart should scorn a pleasure that gives others pain. — James Thomson

The following Leadership Diplomas have been received by Mississippi church organizational leaders during the quarter July through September, 1980.

Church Training Leadership — General Officers: Mrs. Mildred Little, Pinehill, Clarke; Mrs. Elaine Morgan, Plainway, Jones; Howard Smith, Plainway, Jones; Mrs. Mary Williams, Plainway, Jones.

Woman's Missionary Union Leadership — Acteen Leaders: Mrs. Jeffie C. Windom, Bethel, Copiah; Ann Merritt, Sand Hill, Jones.

Woman's Missionary Union Leadership — WMU Officers: Mrs. Sue M. Perry, First, Moss Point, Jackson; Mrs. Elaine Sims, Indian Springs, Jones; Ann Merritt, Sand Hill, Jones; Ernest M. Stuart, First Picaune, Pearl River; Mrs. Helen F. Wilson, First Picaune, Pearl River; Mrs. F. W. Foster, Calvary, Yazoo; Mrs. James G. Hicks, Calvary, Yazoo; Mamie McNeer, Calvary, Yazoo; Mrs. C. H. Smith, Calvary, Yazoo; Mrs. Billy Thorp, Calvary, Yazoo; Mrs. F. G. Walker, Calvary, Yazoo; Mrs. Stanley Wilkinson, Calvary, Yazoo.

Woman's Missionary Union Leadership — Baptist Women: Mrs. Claude H. Fortenberry, Pine Grove, Jones; Mrs. F. W. Foster, Calvary, Yazoo; Mrs. James G. Hicks, Calvary, Yazoo; Mamie McNeer, Calvary, Yazoo; Mrs. C. H. Smith, Calvary, Yazoo; Mrs. Billy Thorp, Calvary, Yazoo; Mrs. F. G. Walker, Calvary, Yazoo; Mrs. Stanley Wilkinson, Calvary, Yazoo; and from First, Pascagoula, Jackson, the following: Mrs. Ella Bennette, Mrs. Gladys Bowman, Mrs. Mary Green, Mrs. Ola Johnston, Mrs. Edna Langworthy, Mrs. Gertrude Lee, Mrs. Margie Leshman, Mrs. Peggy Luckey, Syble McCoy, Beverly

McLeod, Mrs. Elvie J. McMurray, Mrs. Fannie McIlwain, Mrs. Zelida Meaders, Mrs. Maude Miller, Mrs. Ora Nelson, Mrs. Caribel Norwood, Mrs. Inez Pace, Mrs. Lyla Rasco, Mrs. Charlotte Richards, Mrs. Sue Ross, Pearl Sexton, Mrs. Pearl Sexton, Mrs. Clara Simpson, Norma Smith, Mrs. Fannie P. Stokes, Mrs. Sally Tetter, Mrs. Letta M. Webb, Mrs. Mary Williams.

Church Training Leadership — Adult Leaders: Mrs. Margaret James, Plainway, Jones; Mrs. Myrtle Pickering, Plainway, Jones; A. B. Godfrey, West Heights, Pontotoc.

Church Training Leadership — Preschool Leaders: Mrs. Mary Yates, Plainway, Jones.

Sunday School Leadership — Youth Leaders: T. E. Briscoe, Clear Creek, Lafayette.

Sunday School Leadership — Preschool Leaders: Mrs. Annie Bryant, First, Clinton, Hinds-Madison; Grace Lovelace, First, Clinton, Hinds-Madison; Mrs. Jean Prather, First, Clinton, Hinds-Madison; Mrs. Betty Whitlock, First, Clinton, Hinds-Madison.

Sunday School Leadership — Children's Leaders: Elliott Fleming, First, Clinton, Hinds-Madison; Grace Lovelace, First, Clinton, Hinds-Madison.

Sunday School Leadership — General Officers: James F. Webster, Parkway, Hinds-Madison; Lurline Tapley, 38th Avenue, Lebanon.

Associational Leadership — Church Training: Kenneth R. McMillen, Clear Creek, Lafayette.

Brotherhood Leadership — General Officers: Kenneth R. McMillen, Clear Creek, Lafayette.

Church Recreation Leadership: Christa Hutcherson, First, Winona, Montgomery.

Deacon Ministry: Charles E. Abbey, Liberty, Smith; Leon Emery, Woodville Heights, Hinds-Madison.

Church Music — Instrumental Leaders: Mrs. Hubert Q. Pray, Colonial Heights, Hinds-Madison.

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[illegible]

Barland's Creek church (Holmes): Nov. 17-23; 7 p.m. Mon.-Sat.; Sunday 11 a.m.; Randall Pons, pastor of First Church, Maben, evangelist; John Spores, pastor; Frank Stedie, Canton, leading the music. Homecoming will be observed Nov. 23, the last day of revival, with lunch served at the church.

Under the leadership of John Alexander, director, Stewardship Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, the church participated in a Together We Build program, and \$163,761 was pledged. David Perry, pastor, stated that this program has really been a blessing to the church and that the giving is ahead of schedule.

Donald Robbins, chairman of the Building Committee, said the church was organized in 1882.



The Michaels

Begun Chitto Church, Pike County, has called J. B. Michael as music director. Michael, who has served in churches in various areas of the state, is employed by Mississippi Power and Light Company in McComb.

Dick Fletcher has resigned as assistant pastor at First, Gulfport, and will serve in the Navy as a chaplain.

Beth Watkins has been employed to serve First, Long Beach, as pianist. She is a music education graduate from USM.

Danny Munson is the new pastor of Camp Ground Church, Yalobusha County, near Water Valley.

CIMF Fortenberry, son of Claude H. Fortenberry and Mrs. Fortenberry of Hillsville, is now minister of music for Soule St. Church, Hattiesburg, John Clem, pastor. He was formerly at Patton Church, Port Gibson. He holds bachelor's and master's degrees from Mississippi College.

FMB Hones 'Spearhead' Of Global Evangelism

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board honed the "spearhead" of global evangelism and church growth at its October meeting, voting a \$90.4 million budget for 1981, appointing 36 missionaries, filling five staff positions, and voting to enter a new country.

In planning its Bold Mission Thrust agenda to proclaim Christ to the world by 2000 A.D., the board reflected on its past — honoring 18 emeritus missionaries with 610 years of combined service and celebrating 50 years of service to the board by treasurer Everett L. Deane, who retires Dec. 31. "Evangelism must be the spearhead of missions," declared Charles Bryan, vice president for overseas operations, as he reviewed current efforts and future strategy for expansion of evangelism and church growth.

The board took steps to strengthen "the shaft," by approving a budget of \$90,448,366 in one of more than 200 actions taken at its annual meeting.

The budget anticipates \$36,148,366 in funds from the SBC Cooperative Program and its Bold Advance portion, \$45 million from the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions, and the balance from miscellaneous sources.

In a separate action, the board approved formation of a 20-person development council to seek new sources or revenue from individuals who will respond to the challenge to help offset the declining buying power of the dollar.

The board also voted, as The Baptist Record reported earlier, to join with Spanish Baptists and possibly Brazilian Baptists, both products of Southern Baptist missions, to open work in the small West African nation of Equatorial Guinea.

In moves designed to strengthen abilities of the home office staff to respond to overseas missions needs, the Foreign Mission Board added five new staffers.

They are Samuel M. James, associate to the area director for east Asia, as director of the board's orientation and development department; Mel R. Plunk, missionary to Argentina, as missionary candidate consultant for central Texas; Roy L. Lyon, director of evangelism for the Baptist Spanish Publishing House, El Paso, Texas, as regional consultant for evangelism and church growth for Latin America; Lloyd Atkinson, former missionary and currently pastor in Chesapeake, Va., as administrative assistant to Bryan Bradington, area director for western South America; and J. Murphy Terry, former missionary and now regional personnel representative for five states, as administrative assistant to William R. Wakefield, area director for south and southeast Asia.

Face with escalating world needs, the board appropriated \$456,100 for re-

lief around the world — almost half targeted for relief of flood and drought victims in Africa and South America. Relief contributions through September totaled \$3,205,686, almost double the amount given in the same period last year.

The 36 new appointees, who gave testimonies at a special service at Richmond's New Bridge Baptist Church, included four children of missionaries, two former missionary journeymen, and a couple with Mississippi ties, David and Barbara Magee Murray.

The two new administrative assistants join five others already on the staff.

J. Murphy Terry, 43, former missionary to Laos, Thailand, and Sri Lanka, will become administrative assistant to William R. Wakefield, area director for South and Southeast Asia. Since August 1979, Terry, an Illinois native, has been the board's regional personnel representative for Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, and the Texas Gulf Coast.

Five administrative assistants already have been named to assist area directors in the daily operation of their offices, including Joy Neal, a native of Mississippi and former journeyman in Zambia and Kenya, administrative assistant to Davis Saunders, area director for eastern and southern Africa.

Jackson Co. To Use \$75,000 For Indian Church

Jackson Association has voted to initiate a campaign to raise \$75,000, the money to be used to build an Indian church and to develop the association's recreation site.

Howard Taylor, pastor of Arlington Heights, Pascagoula, is chairman of the committee.

Allen Webb, director of missions, said that money may be borrowed to begin construction as soon as 75% of the amount is received or pledged by the churches.

Some people would see better days if they wouldn't run around at night.

Thursday, November 13, 1980

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 7



1st, Vicksburg, Gives House To McCalls

John G. and Wilma McCall stand in front of their new home in Vicksburg. McCall is the long time pastor of First Church, Vicksburg, where he and his wife were recently given the pastorate. A resolution stated that the house was given "for and in consideration of the church's love and affection, for 28 years of dedicated Christian service."

McCall is a former president and vice-president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention. He also has served as a member of the Radio and Television Commission, S.B.C., as a member of the Executive Committee, S.B.C., vice-president of the Board of Trustees of Mississippi College and as a member of the Long Range Study Commission of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. In Vicksburg he is a member of the Board of Directors of the Vicksburg Hospital.

Names In The News...



BOB RAMSAY, right, talks with Southern Baptist Seminary President W. RANDALL LOLLEY, during the recent meeting in Wake Forest, N.C. of the seminary's trustees. Ramsay, retired pastor of Calvary Church, Tupelo, is the Mississippi representative on the Board. (Photo by Rod Byard.)

Curtis Laney was ordained Oct. 26 as deacon at Bethlehem Church, Carroll-Montgomery Association. Sonny Redwine gave the charge to the church. Albert Britt led the charge to the deacons.

Carmel Church, Monticello, on Oct. 12 licensed Glen Crane into the gospel ministry. Crane, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Euell Crane, is a freshman at Co-Lin Junior College.

Camp Ground Church, Yalobusha County, Danny Munson, pastor, recently observed Elmer Mills Day.

Mills, age 76, has been Sunday School director there for 23 years, during which time he has missed only two Sundays. He has resigned "to let a younger man serve." The church gave Mills a large print Bible; the Sunday School gave him a plaque for "outstanding Christian service."

Odus Jackson has resigned as pastor of the Natalbany Baptist Church, Natalbany, La. He is available for supply work, special services, interim pastor, revivals, or as pastor.

Jackson can be contacted by telephone 601-225-4726 (Gloster, Miss.); 504-686-7734 (Rev. Tommy Jackson); 504-654-0545 (Zachary, La.); or 504-775-2082 (Baker, Northside Baptist Church), or by letter c/o Rev. Tommy Jackson, P. O. Box 27, Livingston, La. 70754.

First Church, Belzoni, held appreciation service on October 12 for Mrs. Allie Belle Townsend who has given the church more than 50 years of continuing service. Edwin Sudduth, Minister of Music at Ashland Church, presented an organ concert; a reception followed. Billy McKay is pastor.

Larry Austin and Serald Finley were ordained Oct. 12 as deacons at County Line Church, Pontotoc County. Ronnie Barefield and J. W. Owen delivered the charges. Wade Allen, director of missions, Pontotoc County, served as moderator. Sam Holcomb is the County Line pastor.

Jack Ezell was ordained as deacon Oct. 12 at Ecru Church. Wade Allen, Pontotoc director of missions, presented the charge to the deacon; Charles Stubblefield, Ecru pastor, delivered the charge to the church.

Carl Prewitt, pastor of Bellevue Church, Shelby, and Mrs. Prewitt have announced the arrival of a son, Matthew Bradley, born Sept. 19.

John Orin Langworthy of Pascagoula, son of Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Langworthy, Sr., has been named recipient of the T. M. Hederman, III Memorial Scholarship at Mississippi College, the highest award available to an entering freshman.

The Hederman Memorial Scholarship was established in 1964 by Mr. and Mrs. T. M. Hederman, Jr., of Jackson, Mrs. Richard W. Hussey, and friends of T. M. Hederman, III.

Langworthy will be studying for a career in religious church music while attending Mississippi College.

His parents, his brother, two sisters, a sister-in-law, and two brothers-in-law have all attended MC.

Randall H. Perry, pastor of the Bay Vista Baptist Church, Biloxi, representing his congregation, recently presented MSgt. Dewey R. Wise, 2052 Communications Squadron, Keeler AFB, with a ministerial license. MSgt. Wise (SMSgt. Selectee) has decided to retire from the Air Force in June 1981 after 20 years of service, to pursue a second career in the area of religious education.

Tom Hall, pastor of Trinity Church, Gulfport, recently preached in an evangelistic crusade in England.

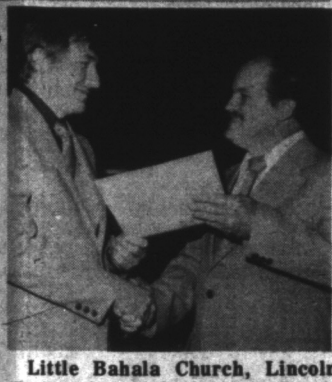
First Church, Ocean Springs has ordained David Smith as a deacon.

Smith is married and has two children. He is studying at William Carey College on the Coast, preparing for the ministry. Paul David Aultman is pastor at Ocean Springs.

First Church, Ocean Springs has ordained Walter Thweatt to the ministry. He has been a member of that church for several years. Retired from the U.S. Air Force, he is a graduate of William Carey College, and will receive an MRE degree from New Orleans Seminary in December.

Thweatt, who is married and has two children, Kim and John, said he feels that his calling is into the ministry of education.

Robert Carlisle celebrated his 20th anniversary recently as pastor of Big Ridge Church, Biloxi.



Little Bahala Church, Lincoln County, licensed James C. Harris (left) to the gospel ministry Oct. 26. The Certificate of License was presented by the pastor, James Case (right). Harris is the son of Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Harris of Rt. 2, Wesson. He is married to the former Judy Thompson and is the father of two sons, Matt, 10, and Jeremy, 4. He is enrolled in night classes at Whitworth College, Brookhaven, and Copiah Lincoln Junior College, Wesson. He is available for supply preaching.

Ron Bolen was ordained to the gospel ministry by First Church, Grenada, Oct. 5. Jimmy McGee is pastor. Bolen is serving as minister of music and youth in First Church, Holly Springs, Donnie Stewart, pastor.



Nick L. Walker, left, of Jackson, business, community, and church leader, has been honored by Mississippi College with the "Alumnus of the Year" award for 1980. Lewis Nobles, right, presents the award to Walker as Mrs. Walker observes. Walker graduated from Mississippi College in 1938 and has been active in alumni affairs and other projects of the college through the years. He is a member of First Church, Jackson.

Emmanuel Church, Walnut Grove, licensed Newton Anthony Henry to the gospel ministry on Sept. 14 and ordained him Sunday, Oct. 26, at the request of New County Line Church.

Jimmy Young read the Scripture at the ordination service; Billy Henry, brother of the candidate, delivered the message; Parks Ware offered the ordination prayer; Percy M. Cooper, pastor at Emmanuel, presented the Bible; Wilbur Walters gave the charge to the candidate; W. C. Smith, Leake director of missions, made the charge to the church.

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Homecomings

Louin Church, Louin, will observe homecoming on Sunday, Nov. 30. The day's activities will begin at 10 a.m. Lunch will be served.

Cherry Creek Church (Pontotoc County) will have Harvest Day on Nov. 23. This will be the beginning of annual Harvest Day celebrations there, with offerings to be used to retire the church indebtedness. The goal for this year's offering is \$15,000.

Pastor Joe Herndon will bring the morning message. Harold Reeder will lead the congregational singing, with special music by church choir.

Services will begin with Sunday School at 10 and continue with worship at 11, noon meal at 12:15, and afternoon service at 1:30.

Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, will bring the afternoon message. Cherry Creek is his "home" church. Special music will be presented at each service.

Border Springs Church, Caledonia, in Lowndes County, will celebrate Harvest Day on Sunday, Nov. 23. Brooks Lindsay and W. E. Prout will be the speakers for the services. Michael Carroll, minister of music, will direct the music; Lunch will be served at the church.

Graceful is the tear of sympathy, and the heart that meets at the tale of woe. — Hugh Blair

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Satartia Holds Aunt Mary Day

Satartia Church honored Mrs. Mary Warnock with an "Aunt Mary Day." "Aunt Mary" has for 47 years worked actively in all departments of the Satartia Church. She has been Sunday School teacher, Training Union leader, Vacation Bible School worker, and WMU officer. She attends regularly all of the church services.

For years she has opened her home to pastors, visiting evangelists, and church socials. The WMU Christmas parties have been an annual affair in her home.

In her community she has collected money for the Red Cross, Cancer Fund, Polio Drive, and United Givers. For 12 years she was a social worker for the Yazoo County Welfare Department. Also she taught school in the community.



Mrs. Ernest G. Martin, right, presents Mrs. Mary Warnock with a plaque from Satartia Church.

A tribute to her stated, "Every church has her Aunt Mary, but no church has an Aunt Mary like Satartia's own Aunt Mary." The church presented her a plaque which read: "47 years of faithful and dedicated service to Satartia Baptist Church." She was also given an arrangement of red roses.

Religion cannot pass away. The burning of a little straw may hide the stars of the sky, but the stars are there, and will reappear. — Thomas Carlyle

Bahamians, Baptists Pay Tribute To R. E. Cooper

NASSAU, Bahamas — Hundreds of people stood in the streets around Mission Baptist Church, Nassau, Oct. 11, as Baptist leaders and Bahamian officials joined the overflow crowd inside in paying tribute to R. E. Cooper, one of the Bahamas' most influential leaders.

Cooper, 67, organized the church with six members in 1940 upon returning to the Bahamas after preparing for the ministry at American Baptist Theological Seminary, Nashville. When he died Oct. 2, after a brief illness, Cooper was chaplain at Her Majesty's Prisons in Nassau, general director of the Bahamas Baptist Association and pastor of Mission Baptist Church.

From the early days of his pastorate, Cooper worked to unify the country's Baptist churches through the Bahamas Baptist Missionary and Educational Convention which he served as president from 1964 to 1974.

Today 210 of the 260 Bahamian Baptist churches belong to the convention.

Much of the country's Baptist work bears the mark of Cooper's leadership. He was vice president of the Caribbean Baptist Fellowship which he helped form and principal of the Bahamas Baptist Bible Institute. He served on two committees of the Baptist World Alliance in 1976 and 1977, and he was president of Bahamas Christian Council for three years. In 1972 he was made a member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.

During the four-hour service Oct. 11, Bahamian Prime Minister L. O. Pindling said he was grateful to Cooper "for putting strength in the backbone of the church, and for helping to make this group of islands into one nation." He added that in every circle Cooper moved, whenever he spoke, everybody listened.

Charles C. Smith, president of the Bahama Convention, said Cooper served at a time when being a Baptist minister was not an easy task. "When Dr. Cooper became president (of the convention), Baptists were not invited to anything; now they are invited to everything."

Just For The Record . . .



THE YOUTH CHOIR OF BORDER SPRINGS CHURCH, CALEDONIA, recently performed the musical, "Down by the



Creek Bank" twice at their own church and also at New Salem Church. Mike Carroll, minister of music at Border Springs, directed the presentation.



"Country Sunshine" presented a musical program at Crystal Springs Baptist Church, Waltham County, recently called "Down by the Creekbank." They are under direction of Mary Jane Stogner and Brad Johnson. Members include, from left, front row: Jennifer Lee, Kathy Barlow, Debra Stogner, Brandi Alexander, Pam Toney, Janet Stogner, Joan Remley, Christy Shappley, Janet Alexander and Susan Smith. Back row: Mrs. Stogner, Bill Sartin, Chris Lee, Chris Pigott, Todd Sumrall, Mike Stogner, Kevin Sumrall, Tommy Stogner, William Morris, Chris Ingram and Brad Johnson.



CLEAR CREEK CHURCH near Oxford honored six Queens Regent in Service in a recent ceremony. From left are, row one, Diana Sledge, who also during the year had achieved Queen Regent status, Angela McMillen, Beth Collins, and Linda Hall, leader; row two, Mary Brite, Nita Crowe, Lynn McMillen and Mrs. Katherine Collins, leader; row three, Mrs. Jeri Oliphant, W.M.U. officer, Mrs. Patsy Waller, associational director, and Mrs. Dell Ross, W.M.U. director at Clear Creek. Kenneth McMillen is pastor.

Uniform Lesson

God's Covenant And Paul

By Jack Glaze, Chairman,
Division of Religion, MC
Focal Passage: Acts 13:44-52;
II Corinthians 3:1-4

Lesson Background: The New Testament reiterates the Old Testament's teaching of the divine nature of the covenant. God determines the grounds, demands, and provisions of the covenant. It is not coercive, rather man remains free to enter the covenant or not. The "new covenant" finds its fulfillment in Jesus Christ. It is not a covenant made with the nation; it is made with the individual, and, as such, finds its expression in the collective community of believers, the church. Entrance into the fellowship is through repentance and faith in Christ, who, in his sacrifice, sealed the covenant through repentance and faith in Christ, who, in his sacrifice, sealed the covenant through his shed blood.

The Bible presents both the old and new covenants as redemptive in nature. Salvation was afforded through the grace of God, and the covenant communities were to be instruments in God's world redemption. The failure of the "old covenant" came as a result of human sin.

The "new covenant" came, and as a spiritual kingdom constituted a new Israel, the true Israel, the church (cf. Romans 9:6-7). However, because of the long covenant tradition as God's chosen people, the early Jewish believers also had difficulty in comprehending the universal nature of the new covenant.

Luke looked back and saw how the Holy Spirit had led in the geographical expansion of Christianity: from Jerusalem, to Judea, to Samaria, and to the uttermost part of the earth.

The Holy Spirit also dealt with Jewish particularism as God's stamp of approval was placed on all who believed. First, there was a "Jewish" Pentecost (Acts 2:1-4); then came a "Samaritan" Pentecost (Acts 8:14-17), and, finally, there was a "Gentile" Pentecost (Acts 10:44-46). God empowered all believers for the task at hand. The Spirit filled Jews first; then "part" Jews, and then "non-Jews."

Then God moved to call his apostle, Paul (Saul of Tarsus). At the same time the Gentile witness was expanded, and in Antioch the believers were first called "Christians." A strong church developed, and there the Holy Spirit instituted a formal mis-

sionary movement (cf. Acts 13:1-3). Barnabas and Saul were set apart (dedicated) and sent out on the first missionary journey.

Acts 13 begins the record of the founding of the churches in Asia Minor. From a study of Paul's missionary activities, several standard procedures mark his strategy: first, he went to strategically located urban areas that would serve as a central base for future expansion of the gospel. Second, he went to the synagogues where he preached to Jews, proselytes, and "God-fearers" (interested non-Jews). Third, when rejected by the Jews in the synagogue, he went directly to the Gentiles. Fourth, he carried on an extensive conservation program of teaching, training local leadership, return visits, and correspondence.

Lesson Outlined—

I. Jewish Rejection (Acts 13:44-45)

1. Paul's sermon. Paul's first recorded sermon is found in Acts 13:16-41. It was a review of Israel's history similar to Stephen's discourse prior to his martyrdom. (That sermon made a profound impression on Paul.) Paul announced that Jesus' death and resurrection had been foretold in the Scriptures (Old Testament.) Then he invited the hearers to believe in Jesus for forgiveness.

2. Jewish rejection (13:42-46). The sermon impressed the hearers, and the Gentiles requested that Paul be permitted to preach on the next Sabbath. The word spread rapidly that week, and on the following day of worship "almost all the city came together to hear the word of God" (v. 44). The Jewish leaders became apprehensive and jealous. Consequently, they began to contradict Paul and resorted to blasphemy. Boldly Paul and Barnabas responded that the word of God necessarily had to be proclaimed first to the Jews; however, since they rejected it, they would now turn to the Gentiles.

II. Gentile Acceptance (13:47-52)

1. A light to the nations. In defense of their decision to turn to the Gentiles, the missionaries quoted Isaiah 49:6: "I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldst be for salvation unto the ends of the earth." This is from one of the "Servant Poems" fulfilled in Jesus. Now Paul and Barnabas, as followers of the Messiah, accept the principle personally and direct the "light" of Jesus to the

"nations" (Gentiles).

2. Gentile acceptance. The non-Jews received the word gladly and rejoiced that God had included them in his salvation plan. God took the initiative and many believed, and as a result, the word of God was spread throughout the region.

3. Jewish opposition. The Jewish rejection increased to open hostility. Devout women were enlisted in the campaign. It was not uncommon to find many Jewish proselytes and sympathizers in the Roman Empire. In comparison with the many immoral pagan religious cults and superstitions of the day, the Jewish faith with its monotheism and high ethical standards attracted many prominent people. In this situation, the women influenced their husbands and the chief men of the city to expel the "missionaries" from their midst. But even in persecution, "the disciples were filled with joy, and with the Holy Ghost."

III. Ministers of the New Covenant (II Cor. 3:1-6)

Paul's Jewish opponents had arrived in Corinth armed with letters of recommendation. They had come to discredit him. He in turn says he does not need such letters of recommendation.

1. Transformed lives. The new covenant is marked by transformed lives. The amazing transformation of the Christian in that wicked city of Corinth was proof of a covenant not signed with washable "ink" (cf. Num. 5:23), but "with the Spirit of the living God" written on the "tables of the heart."

2. God's sufficiency. The credit for the new covenant and transformed lives goes to God—not Paul! The new covenant is superior to the covenant made through Moses. However, God was the author of both, and the second is the fulfillment of the original one.

3. Ministers of the new covenant. God initiates the covenant and constitutes those who are ministers of it. It is a covenant new in quality, not new in time. Man can only accept it or reject it; however, it does require qualified, transformed, spirit-led ministers (cf. I Tim. 1:12). It is a covenant, "not of the letter, but of the spirit." The old code was impossible to attain unaided; the new code, inaugurated in Christ, offers the presence of the Holy Spirit so that man does have the potential of keeping it.

Weaver Retires In Virginia

Pinehurst Church, Richmond, Va., on Oct. 19, honored pastor James O. Weaver on his retirement, effective December 31, 1980, with a surprise This Is Your Life Sunday for him and his wife, Elsie Mae Floyd Weaver.

Weaver is a former Mississippian, born in Attala County, the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Jim Weaver. He is a graduate of Mississippi College and Southern Seminary. He was ordained to the ministry at his home church, Sand Hill Church, and his first pastorate was there while he was attending Mississippi College.

Most of Weaver's pastorates have been in Virginia. He has been pastor at Pinehurst for 16½ years.

Attending the Special Day were approximately 600 people with 60 or more from churches Weaver has served in Virginia.

The Weavers have two sons, James Albert and Douglas, both attending the seminary in Louisville. Douglas, a graduate of Mississippi College, is on the staff of one of the churches in Louisville, while James is the pastor of a church near the seminary.

"You Work; I Pray," Says Corrie

At the Christian Booksellers Association's recent "Status-of-the-Industry" meeting, a number of booksellers asked Fleming H. Revell about Corrie ten Boom's health.

Several paragraphs of a letter from Corrie's companion, Pamela Rosewell, answered the questions:

"More than two years ago Tante Corrie had her first stroke. At one point a year ago, she had her second serious stroke which paralyzed her right side. The doctors felt she would live for only a short while. Now, more than 12 months later, Tante Corrie has regained much of her strength; her eating has improved; she looks well; and she is able to sit often in her wheelchair, enjoying the sun and her colorful garden.

"She is happy to receive letters. Indeed, from a newspaper article in Holland, Tante received 2,000 letters . . . and she was keen to have each one read to her!

"More impressive than her physical condition is what has been happening to Tante Corrie spiritually. In this great trial of her faith, stretching for

Anger is righteous if it has in it grief on account of what is happening to others. — E. Stanley Jones

Devotional The Baptism Of The Spirit

By Robert J. Sanderson, Pastor, Evergreen (Wayne)

There are several Bible passages in which the "Baptism of the Spirit" is mentioned. Will you read these and meditate upon them for this week's devotion?

1. In Matthew 3:11, John the Baptist spoke of both the coming of Jesus and the baptism of the Spirit. A study of the passage shows two things about the baptism of the Spirit. (1) Jesus is the baptizer. John was baptizing in the water those who gave evidence of repentance. He spoke of Jesus as one "mightier than I" and said He would come and baptize. (2) The Holy Spirit is shown as the realm into which one is baptized. Did Jesus come? Yes, He came. Did He baptize believers in the Spirit? Yes, He did. In Acts chapter 2 it is said that believers were filled with the Spirit and cloven tongues of fire came and stood over their heads. Here the prophecy of John about Jesus baptizing in the

Sanderson Spirit was fulfilled as the church was brought into being and the believers were initiated into the body of Christ.

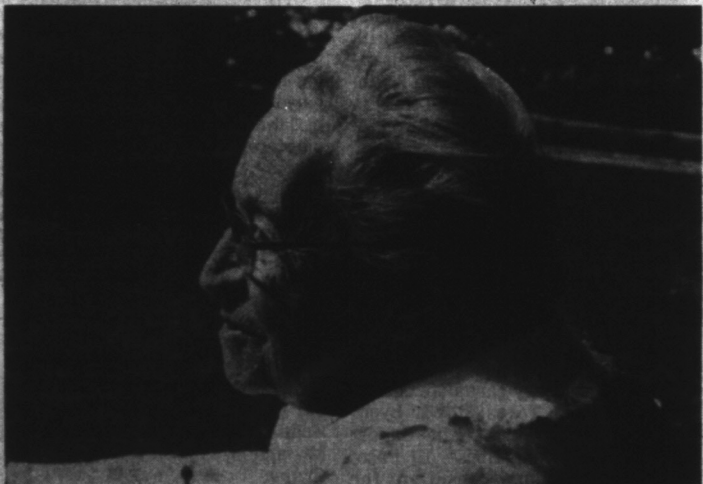
2. Paul, in I Corinthians 12:13, spoke of the baptism of the Spirit. This verse declares the Holy Spirit to be the baptizer and Jesus the realm into which believers are baptized. This is the continuing baptism of the Spirit and happens simultaneously with the new birth. One of the things which the Holy Spirit does for the believer is to induct him into the body of Christ. There are no accompanying signs when this experience takes place. It happens simply and quietly in the experience of the believer.

(3) According to Romans 6:3 the believer is baptized into the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ. This is a work of the Holy Spirit in which the believer is brought to a realization of His identity with Christ. This experience has existed potentially since the death of Jesus. It becomes real through the Spirit at conversion.

Thus the baptism of the Spirit is a quiet, continuing experience in which the believer is brought into the body of Christ and identified with the suffering and victory of Jesus in His death and resurrection.

more than two years now and which has taken much of her speech and limited her physically, she is making a strong statement: Jesus is Victor! Her peace and joy and acceptance are a great challenge to those of us who have the privilege of caring for her; yes, the Life of the Lord Jesus in her is a great reality.

"Tante Corrie is so very happy that she can still speak through her books and wishes us to thank booksellers the world over for doing the most important work in the world: glorifying God through the extension of His Kingdom. Tante Corrie used to say, 'I work; you pray'. Now I think she would say, 'You work; I pray'."



The photo was taken recently in the garden of Corrie ten Boom's home in Placentia, Calif.

Life and Work Lesson

Grace For Sinners

By Bobby Perry, Pastor,
First, Moss Point

Basic Passage: Luke 5:1-12

In the previous study we visited the synagogue with Christ. Now we see Him at the Sea of Galilee. Jesus did return to the synagogue on occasions, but increasingly His pulpit became the open road, the roadside, a house, or a fishing boat on the Sea of Galilee. He went where the people congregated. He went where He found listening hearts and ears. He had something they needed — grace, God's grace.

Chapter 5 contains a variety of scenes and personalities. It can be seen for its trilogy of miracles: one in nature and two in man. As a whole, chapter 5 shows us Christ with a catch of fish; cleansing a leper; a company of four bearing a paralytic; a call to a tax collector; and a collection of tax collectors and sinners. We also catch a glimpse of the old wineskins, and the emergence of a new day, a new way, and a new covenant. It is a beautiful portrait of the gospel moving into the mainstream of human hurt and need.

Jesus' willingness to accept all persons aroused strong opposition from the Pharisees. Jesus was concerned about God and persons, first of all. The Pharisees were preoccupied with religion itself, with religion for its own sake: circumcision, the sabbath, purification rites, food laws, fasting, and the like. They considered themselves to be righteous and all who failed to observe their standards to be sinners. In this section, Luke pointed out the conflict between Jesus and the Pharisees over the authority to forgive sins, association with people outside the approved group, fasting and the sabbath.

I. Healing the Unhealable (5:14-16)

Friends (Mark says there were four) of a paralytic had such faith and concern for their afflicted friend that they found a way to Jesus when the crowds at the door blocked their way to Him. They went up to the housetop, presumably a flat roof accessible by an outside stair, and lowered the man through a hole made by removing tiles from the roof.

The surprise came when the Savior said, "Man, your sins have been forgiven you" (5:20). Why did Jesus begin with the man's sin instead of his paralysis? One reason may have been that this was the man's real problem. There was a Jewish saying, recorded in the Talmud, "No sick man is healed until his sins have been forgiven him."

Probably, Luke's primary concern was to show that the authority of Jesus in religion begins with the forgiveness of sins. The Pharisees protested that only God could forgive sins, and they accused Jesus of blasphemy (Stagg).

All Jews agreed that God alone could forgive sin. Jesus, aware of their doubts and accusations, inquired: "Which is easier to say, thy sins be forgiven thee, or rise up and walk?" Forgiveness of sin could not be proved or disproved; therefore, Jesus said to the palsied man, "Arise, and take up thy couch, and go into thine house." The instantaneous healing is described by the expression "Immediately he rose . . . took up that upon which he lay . . . and departed . . ." As the man left for his own dwelling, he "kept glorifying" God. The scribes and Pharisees had been correct in stating that God alone could forgive sin; they had been incorrect in their interpretation of the person of Jesus.

For the first time in Luke's Gospel, the term Son of man is employed (5:24). This was the favorite self-designation of Jesus. The term probably was taken over from Daniel 7:13. It seems that Jesus saw Himself as the fulfillment of this picture in Daniel. As the Son of man, He would reign universally and eternally. At this point, it is the authority of the Son of man which is stressed. Later, Jesus will show that as Son of man He will fulfill His missions through suffering service. Jesus refused to be the Pharisees' kind of Messiah, one whose mission was to reward the "righteous." He came rather as the Son of man, offering salvation to sinners of all nations (Stagg).

II. Calling the Uncallable (5:27-28)

Levi was a "tax collector." Just the very association of this term with Levi gives us our key thought. The ultimate following of Levi to the call of Jesus is not as big a surprise as Jesus "calling him." Tax collectors were hated by the people. The Romans retained direct responsibility in Palestine for collecting regular taxes, like land or poll taxes; but they contracted out to private citizens the collection of tolls from those who transported property by land or water. These officers were awarded on the basis of competitive bids. Taxes were then collected on a commission basis. This opened the way for bribes and other offenses.

It was a bold move on the part of Jesus to include one like Levi in His inner circle. Levi was counted a sinner both in personal life and in his profes-

sion. To the Pharisees, he was an outcast. The Pharisees were the "separatists," this being the meaning of the name. Their separation was from what they considered "unclean" — including both things and people.

III. Desiring the Undesirable

Levi's first reported act after his commitment to Jesus was to give a great banquet. He had a strange guest list — "tax collectors and others" were invited. Jesus shocked the Pharisees and their scribes by eating with these guests. It was in table fellowship that the Pharisees were strictest. For the Pharisees, piety made much of separation; and Jesus included the very ones whom the Pharisees were most concerned to exclude.

Jesus rejected the superficial grounds upon which the Pharisees distinguished between the "righteous" and the "sinners," and based His distinction upon what one through repentance and faith had let God do in the innermost self. Jesus looked upon Pharisee and publican as sinners, both under the same judgement and requiring the same salvation. It was for this principle that he set about to create a "new Israel," a new people of God, without regard for nationality, race, or other distinctions of the world.

Jesus said, "I have not come to call righteous people but sinners to repentance" (5:32). His ministry was to sinners as a physician's is to the sick. In this, Jesus and the Pharisees were poles apart. To the Pharisee, salvation was a reward for righteousness, achieved mainly by separation from what he considered unclean. The synagogues stood open to repentant sinners, but the religious leaders did not seek out the sinners. Jesus sought sinners. Salvation is God's gift to sinners. Salvation is God's work, not man's. But the salvation which God offers is not mere indulgence. When God saves sinners, he does a creative work, giving man not only a new standing but a new kind of life. Jesus entered into fellowship, including table fellowship, with those most despised by the Jewish religion of His day. There is little wonder that He was crucified! A major problem has always been that of accepting those whom Christ accepts. Many desire to accept Christ as they understand Him or would like to imagine Him to be. Fewer are willing to receive all whom He receives, regardless of worldly distinctions such as class, nationality, and race.